









# Horticulture

## HORTICULTURAL TALKS.

**NEW APPLES FRUITED.**—The following list represents a few of the many varieties fruited here the past season, which seem to be of special merit:

McMahon's White showed up well again with its third successive crop; tree remarkably vigorous and healthy, with large, broad leaves; fruit of the largest size and good quality; a very desirable summer apple.

Rocher fruited for the second time; resembles McMahon's White very closely in appearance; bears early and abundant; fruit large and attractive; very promising.

Oliver Red (Senator) fruited for the first time; seemingly very productive; fruit strikingly beautiful and of very best quality. I am particularly well impressed with this variety and would not hesitate to plant it in a commercial orchard.

Sweet Jonathan—I am so well impressed with the merits of this one that I cannot but think it a pity that it is under restrictions, and, to my knowledge, not for sale. It is a prolific and early bearer; fruit resembles Jonathan very much, and ripens at about the same season; a decidedly sweet apple of splendid flavor.

Walter Reisinger in August; tree is a good grower and bears young; fruit of the largest size; yellowish white in color; quality good.

Reagan (Black Ben Davis)—Fruited here the second time on a top-worked tree, bearing only a few specimens which resemble Ben Davis in appearance; flesh a little darker and a slight improvement in quality.

Stayman—Second fruiting. This seems to be the best of the winter class. Tree is of a much better growth than old winter; fruit larger, highly colored and freely produced. Shows a tendency to drop prematurely, which is to be hoped is not characteristic of this promising variety.

Johnson—This is a medium-sized apple, which resembles Gipsy in every way, excepting shape and quality, it being more flat and of a different, though very good flavor. It is remarkably prolific and a most excellent keeper.

Osark is something on the order of Ben Davis in fact, if a basket of Osarks were emptied on a pile of Ben Davis it would be quite impossible to pick them out.

Long's Keeper—This is a local apple, which has been thoroughly tested in this vicinity, and is a great favorite with all who have learned of its merits. As a keeper it can be excelled. I consider it is not particularly striking at gathering time, but improves wonderfully after storing, reaching nearly if not quite the height of perfection. After February, when at its best, it has that rich, pear-like flavor somewhat like Pryor's Red after proper storing, but more juicy and sweet; color is excellent. The quality of this variety is invaluable for home use, and it would surely pay as a market fruit if it were known.

Florence is perhaps the best of all crabs. Bears very young; fruit freely produced; very attractive and good.

English Walnuts—Many will be surprised to learn that the English walnut was proved hard here. Near my home stand two trees about one foot in diameter. They are nearly 40 years old, and bear as regularly as any walnut. The trees are quite ornamental, very shapely, with attractive, light green foliage and smooth bodies like the white walnut.

ACME POTATO—Those not familiar with this variety should give it a trial. I find it earlier, more productive and freer from scab than the Early Ohio. In appearance and quality it is so near like the latter that it may be sold for the same without the purchaser knowing the difference.

RHUBARB—Now, while the ground is not frozen, is a good time to lift a few clumps of rhubarb for forcing. All who have not tried forcing this useful plant should do so, even if the roots had to be bought. It is astonishing what a quantity of stalks will come from one large clump. Rhubarb is a very accommodating plant. When once referred to the condition of the peach crop on the horticultural grounds in Columbia, while the trees themselves are in good condition, but few buds are found on them. The long-continued drought has damaged small fruits, such as raspberries, blackberries and strawberries. The indications are that these will yield only one-third of the crop. The apple crop promises to be a good one where orchards have been well cared for in the past.

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The choicest selection of imported and home bred sows ever offered to the public. These were almost without exception reserved for our breeding herd, and include some 10 daughters of the great Highclere Topper; three daughters of King Longfellow, possibly the last to be sold at public auction; four daughters of Columbia's Duke, the very last that the Farms have for sale, either privately or publicly; the choicest of our last importation; Pan-American winners, and altogether, for individual merit and breeding, we think, cannot be equaled as an offering. For the last three years, this herd, at the leading shows of America, has won more prizes than any two of our competitors combined.

**SPECIAL RATE OF ONE AND ONE-THIRD FARES FOR THE ROUND TRIP HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE RAILROADS FROM ALL POINTS.**  
**Auctioneer, R. R. Bailey, Gibson City, Ill. Write for Catalogue and Full Information to Biltmore Farms, Biltmore, N. C.**

F. A. Scott, Field Man for this paper, will attend the sale in person and will handle all mail bids intrusted to him to the best of his ability. Address all letters containing bids to him, BILTMORE FARMS, BILTMORE, N. C.

### Horseman



J. S. Hackley, Moberly, Mo., has purchased his brother's half interest in the racing stallion Albert Allison, 2:10 1/4, and is now sole owner of him. He will make a stud season and then be trained for a faster record.

Owners of colts should remember that since Tuesday night, Dec. 21 last, at 12 o'clock their animals are one year older than they were. No matter when a colt or filly is foaled, its age is reckoned from the 1st day of January. The colt that was foaled Tuesday morning, Dec. 21, 1901, is now a yearling.

We understand the Moberly, Mo., track will be put in the best condition for training horses early in the spring and that a trotting and pacing meeting will be given about the last week in September. Moberly has an excellent mile track in Miller Park, with good stables, shade trees, water, etc., and it is one of the best places for the development of speed in the State.

Many horsemen are expressing regret over the partial retirement from the turf of Little Boy, 2:01 1/4, that his owner drove to an amateur record at Memphis. Little Boy formerly won hoppies and raced to a record of 2:04 1/4 in them. If Little Boy were given a whole season to shape up some believe that in all probability the world would see a mile to his credit certainly up to Star Pointer's 1:59 1/4, and many believe faster.

Breeding right is the first thing, but feeding right comes next. To raise a draft horse requires rather more grain than to raise a coach or road horse, but the chances are that he will make his owner more money the day he is sold. He will not require an expert to break and drive him. It will not discount him so much in case he runs into the wire fence as it will one of the other kind. Woven wire is now so cheap that a little money will fence a nice horse pasture. No farmer should run any risks of spoiling a horse or horses on barbed wire.

I do not like mixed breeding and I see no use of it. Life is short, and art is long (so says the Latin poet), and what is the use of mixing up breeding of animals that our grandfathers worked hard to separate? Then I believe in using strong and developed sires, and all things being equal patronize a man that devotes his whole time and study to the stallion business. If you do so he is encouraged in his line of business and will bring more good sires into the country. If we want to raise nice colts we must help men and help to pay their expenses in this way.

Why ten-thites of our American farmers do not take more pride and interest in nice teams and horses is a mystery to me, says a well-known writer. We have plenty of good feed and plenty of good stallions and all that is lacking is an eye for beauty and a hand to mold it. I do not like mixed breeding. If a man wants to raise a horse or team of horses let him first select a good sound brood mare of the type he wants to breed. Let her be sound and suitable or she is not fit to breed from. Then a sire should be selected. It should be of the same type as the brood mare, and if one is deficient in any point the other must be double in quality corresponding.

Nearly every colt when first driven away from home will shy and scare more or less at objects along the roadside. After he has been driven a few times the common practice is to strike him with the whip every time he does this. It is provoking to feed a horse hay three times a day and then see him scare at a little pile of hay in the road. The first thing that comes into the mind is to give him a cut with the whip. Nothing worse than this could be done. The next time he will not only be afraid of the object but of the whip also, and by a little training in the habit of shying and scaring at nearly everything he sees. Many good horses have been ruined by this senseless practice.

We are firm believers in the idea that a stallion can degenerate in his power to transmit speed. This may seem a strange statement to some, but we nevertheless believe it true. A stallion kept in idleness and allowed not a sufficient amount of good, strong, healthy exercise is worse

off than a stallion that is raced. In the former the power to transmit dies, while in the latter there is a lapse of power only that will quickly return with sufficient rest. A stallion kept for service should always be fed liberally on plenty of good food. Potatoes, carrots, boiled oats and fresh-cut grass are among the many things that should enter largely into his daily rations. He should have a large, well-ventilated and light stall, bedded with either wheat or rye straw.

George Ketcham, owner and driver of Crescens, announces that during the past year he has received more than \$70,000 in purses and as money for exhibitions given in various parts of the country by Crescens. The champion is now at Ketcham Farm, where he will remain during the winter.

It ought to go without saying that the colt should be taught to eat grain before he is taken away from the mare. Some breeders recommend that the foal be taught to drink cow's milk before he is taken away from the dam. After weaning, place the colt in an adjoining stall to the mother or tie in a double stall with the dam, but see to it that there is no danger of the colt's being tied so long as to become entangled with the mother. It is not best to break a colt off from suckling at once, but do it gradually. If too sudden and the mare is in good flow, the change may cause her some inconvenience, and possibly even injure the udder. Supply the colt with the best hay that is in the barn; it is presumed the foal eats hay before being taken from the mare. An excellent grain ration for a colt is two or three parts wheat bran to one part ground oats. It will very much improve the grain ration if a part of or a tablespoonful of oil meal be added to each feed, but oil meal is powerful in its effects, so start easy. A colt ought to be able to consume from a quart or two of bran and oatmeal at a ration, depending on the size and age. Don't forget that the growing foal must have plenty of exercise to develop the body. Keep salt before the colt, or at any rate see to it that he is well supplied with this essential. The foal should be fed apples and potatoes and coaxed to eat them. Sugar beets in moderation will not hurt it. Above all things keep the colt quiet, and do not allow him to become scared in any way. One little accident and scare may lay the colt throughout life and always be at a disadvantage.

The New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station has issued a bulletin on "Feeding Farm Horses," by Chas. W. Bennett, which is well worth reading. The trial made with corn stover in comparison with timothy hay shows that they have an equal value in horse feeding in maintaining weight and in the performance of work, which gives a decided preference to corn stover, as it is usually at least one-third cheaper than timothy. As this is the reason for its use, it is perhaps not advisable to give corn stover quite the value mentioned, but it would seem that shredded corn fodder would at least approach the value of timothy for feeding horses. In the construction of an economical ration for feeding horses we would certainly include corn stover, and preferably shredded corn fodder, as a part of the roughage. In reference to the grain it may be said that the general rule allowed for the quantity of roughage is not quite sufficient for feeding horses that are working. More than one per cent of the horse's weight in grain should be allowed. A safe plan in this connection is to allow whatever grain may be necessary to keep the horses in fair condition. Oats are the generally accepted food for horses, and they undoubtedly possess qualities for continual use which are not surpassed by any other single grain, but owing to the high price of oats they can form only a small proportion of an economical ration. The same to some extent is true of corn. Perhaps at this time no better ration for working horses can be made than an equal mixture of bran and corn. This has been found very satisfactory by the authorities referred to and much cheaper, which is the reason for its use in good feed and was about as cheap as any ration fed. It was noted, however, that the feeding of the bran tended towards looseness of the bowels and an inclination to sweat freely.

**DRIVING PARK AT ALTON, ILL.**  
 Editor RURAL WORLD: I see a notice in a St. Louis paper that certain St. Louis horsemen talk of leasing the Alton Driving Park for their training grounds this season. I think the idea is a good one. The track when put in condition is one of the best. The soil is such that it does not scare horses, being of a sandy nature. It is close enough to St. Louis to enable their citizens to attend our matinees and race meetings. Then we have some good horses right here, and there are nearby towns where good horses are to be found. If the track is put in good order scores of horses will come here to be put in training, there will be good matinees and good race meetings. I have a 2:15 clip, and is entered in four rich stakes of the value of \$42,000. H. H. Alton, Ill.

**WITH A LONG PULL, A STRONG PULL AND A PULL TOGETHER BY RURAL WORLD SUBSCRIBERS, NEW NAMES WILL BE ADDED TO OUR LIST WITHIN 30 DAYS! SOME WILL ADD ONE, OTHERS THREE TO FIVE AND OTHERS TEN TO FIFTEEN. EVERY ONE, WE TRUST, WILL ADD ALL THE NAMES HE CAN**

### BLUE BULL NOTES.

By L. E. Clement.

Col. R. L. Harrison, the live stock auctioneer, has been in Texas for a couple of weeks selling Shorthorns. Bob would rather sell horses, and as quite a number have suggested the State fair as the best time and place for selling fine stock it is in order for breeders to speak up in writing and tell what they want.

Frank Berenbaum, station agent of the Wabash railroad at O'Fallon, Mo., has bought of parties at Galesburg, Ill., a yearling filly by Alcantara, 728, first dam by Mambrino Boy, 844, second dam by Grandson, son of Lakeland Abdullah, third dam by Express, sire of Expression (3), 2:14. This ought to be a fast filly and one that would be valuable as a race or brood mare.

Tennessee Wilkes, 2:35, b. h., by George Wilkes, 5:19, dam Lizzie Hayden (in great brood mare list), by Pearline, 5:19, grand dam Lizzie Brinker (dam of Bud Crooke, 2:15 1/2, dam of two trotters and grand dam of six trotters and two pacers, with themselves in the stud at the end of Springfield, Mo. Tennessee Wilkes has practically been all his life a private stallion. Of his 23 standard performers, 16 were bred on the farm and some of the other seven performers were bred by the family. It is a question considering his want of opportunity if he is not one of the greatest sires among the sons of George Wilkes. Mr. Miles says he has been intimate with his surroundings all his life. Brown Hal and McEwen both had the call over him, and even at home he was not appreciated until within the last year. Mr. Miles secured an option on the horse more than a year ago, or he would not have got him. Missouri and Greene county are very fortunate in having such a son of George Wilkes in the stud. Mr. Miles has rented the Zoo Park in order to have pasturage for mares sent to Tennessee Wilkes. He is the brother to Mazette, 2:04 1/4, and Douglas T.

Atty McCammon, of Springfield, Mo., who owns Pat Chase (4) 2:14, son of Phalaris, says he has only four older than 2-year-olds, six 2-year-olds. Three of the six 2-year-olds are in training on the home track. I do not think there is a city or town in Missouri that bred as many mares to registered trotting stallions as Springfield. Mr. O. C. Crothers has a Wilkes stallion, a Woodford Mambrino horse and a Clay. Two others had over 100 patrons each, and other young horses came in for a show. H. F. Fellows says he will handle his 5-year-old Electrice horse the coming season, but does not expect to campaign anything this summer, as their wagon work is pushing them. Mr. Miles has only four older than 2-year-olds, six 2-year-olds. Three of the six 2-year-olds are in training on the home track. I do not think there is a city or town in Missouri that bred as many mares to registered trotting stallions as Springfield. Mr. O. C. 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